

ABSTRACT

A method and ATM switching equipment are provided for switching over between a working channel and a protection channel in an ATM network. The physical layer APS (automatic protection switching) is basically adopted with a simplified means. The method includes the following process: An indication is provided in each cell for transmission whether the cell belongs to a connection currently in a working state via a working channel. Cells are duplicated on each connection basis. The duplicated cells are transmitted simultaneously onto both a working channel and a protection channel. Valid cells are selected from received cells according to the indication in each cell whether the relevant connection is currently in a working state.